SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2988

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Boldt, Clements, Pearson, Bailey and McMahan)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to foster parents' rights; and adding new sections
- 2 to chapter 74.13 RCW.

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- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW to read as follows:
- No department employee may retaliate against a foster parent or in any other manner discriminate against any foster parent because:
 - (1) The foster parent made a complaint with the office of family and children's ombudsman, the attorney general, law enforcement agencies, or the department, provided information, or otherwise cooperated with the investigation of such a complaint;
- 12 (2) The foster parent has caused to be instituted any proceedings 13 under or related to Title 13 RCW;
- 14 (3) The foster parent has testified or is about to testify in any proceedings under or related to Title 13 RCW;
- 16 (4) The foster parent has advocated for services on behalf of the foster child;
- 18 (5) The foster parent has sought to adopt a foster child in the 19 foster parent's care; or

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- 1 (6) The foster parent has discussed or consulted with anyone 2 concerning the foster parent's rights under this chapter or chapter 3 74.15 or 13.34 RCW.
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW 5 to read as follows:
 - (1) The department shall develop procedures for the following:
 - (a) Reporting a violation of section 1 of this act;

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- 8 (b) Disciplinary action in response to a violation of section 1 of 9 this act;
- 10 (c) Informing a foster parent who reports a violation of section 1 11 of this act and the regional foster parent liaison of the outcome of 12 the report; and
- 13 (d) Informing foster parents of the provisions of section 1 of this 14 act and the procedures developed in accordance with this subsection.
- 15 (2) The department shall report to the appropriate committees of 16 the legislature on the procedures developed in accordance with 17 subsection 1 of this section by January 1, 2005.

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